

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Emergency Order No. 1-DC-H-15-12

Issued at Yakutat, Tuesday, June 5th, 2012

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Wednesday, June 6, 2012

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Monday,
December 31, 2012. Unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes the sport Dungeness crab fishery in the Yakutat area marine waters.

REGULATION:

Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective from 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, June 6th through Monday, December 31, 2012:

5 AAC 47.021. Special provisions for seasons, bag, possession, and size limits, and methods and means for the salt waters of Southeast Alaska.

- (b) in the Yakutat vicinity;
 - (3) in all waters of Alaska between the longitude of Cape Suckling (144° W. Long.) and a line projected southwest from the westernmost tip of Cape Fairweather, fishing for Dungeness crab is closed.

Cora Campbell
Commissioner

By delegation to:

Brian Marston
Yakutat Area Management Biologist
Division of Sport Fish

JUSTIFICATION:

The most recent surveys conducted by the Department indicate the Yakutat area Dungeness crab stocks are not rebuilding following the closure of the commercial fishery in 2000. Since 2005 the Dungeness crab sport fishery in the Yakutat vicinity has also been closed. Estimates of sport Dungeness crab harvest prior to 2005 also indicated a declining trend in the Yakutat area Dungeness crab stocks. Because all indications suggest that the stock is not rebuilding, the sport and personal use fishery will continue to be closed in 2012.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270.